

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 13, and ending on page 20, line 8, of the originally filed application, and paragraph [0085] of the published application, with the following amended paragraph.

For example, although the present invention has been described in terms of a single document block 14 circumscribed by a mark 12 in pre-scan image data 10 of a read document in the above embodiments, it is to be understood that the present invention is not limited to this arrangement. The present invention also is applicable to instances of a plurality of document blocks, as shown in FIG. 12(A). In this case the surface area of the document block is determined as the sum of the surface areas of each document block 14. Then, as shown in FIG. 12(B) the headline character code data 30, the body text character code data 32 and the like of each document block are, for example, sequentially arranged in the white space of the rectangular vector data 26 from the top right to the bottom left (when the main text is written vertically). This layout method is not specifically specifically limited. According to this example, a needed document can be collected in a single document even when it exists in a plurality of division within a document, thereby the document data can be easily obtained which are readable and more effectively adhered.